

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Applicant notes with appreciation the allowance of claims 9-15, 19, 28-34, 38, 50, and 53-60.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-8, 16-18, 20-27, 35-37, 39-49, 51, and 52 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e), as being anticipated by Falco et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,545,996).

In response to the Examiner's objections, claims 1-8, 16-18, 20-27, 35-37, 39-49, 51, and 52 have been cancelled.

It is respectfully submitted that the application is now in allowable form and early allowance is respectfully awaited. However, in the event that there may be some outstanding matters which require resolution, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to contact the undersigned by telephone at 613-232-2486, ext. 378.

Respectfully submitted,
JAGDISH SONTI ET AL.

By


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